

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC WORKSHOP
NEVADA CITY
MARCH 5, 2007

PROGRAM GUIDELINES
QUESTIONS

1. Is SNC all Prop 84 funded?
2. **Equitable distribution and positive environmental impact:** How has this been considered? How will it be considered? (Projects may have trickle-down effects on water quality and air quality.)
3. **Regarding page 10 "Economy":** The last bullet is to identify economic impacts, both positive and negative, of SNC's actions. Would it be appropriate to have a similar bullet for other project areas, i.e. identify impacts both positive and negative? Is there a built-in process to evaluate projects in this way?
4. Who are eligible partners?
5. **There's no "weighting."** Will you give preference to a project if, for example, all data is in place/a lot of the leg work is done?
6. Cultural resources, what would these be? Example: How about Basque sheepherders' monuments/tree carvings?
7. **Regarding page 18 "Project Implementation, Performance Standards":** How to measure one-time event effectiveness for subsequent funding? Some sort of scorecard?
8. Will projects that touch multiple program areas have better opportunities for funding?
9. Can you define tribal tourism?
10. Are only Federally recognized tribes eligible?

PROGRAM GUIDELINES
COMMENTS

1. Urbanization in the Sierra is a big issue, and there has been a need to spend increasing time on this. How will these guidelines fit in?
2. **Mining history in the area:** How will those unique issues be addressed? For example: water contamination like arsenic/mercury and the need to understand contamination sources. People need to consider these issues, some projects could cause more harm than good.
3. **Regarding pages 6-11 under bullet 1:** Add for all project examples "...or other" to end of list.
4. **Regarding page 8 "Cultural, Physical, and Living Resources":** Add a bullet that says "facilitate resource swap opportunities" under land swap bullet.

5. Working Landscapes: Want “sustainable” to mean ecologically sustainable. Need to minimize harmful inputs (such as pesticides), think more holistically.
6. **Weighting of grant proposals to foster innovative partnerships is not currently in the guidelines, would love to see it (government/non-profit partnerships).**
7. **Regarding page 10 “Public Use of Public Land”: Access may cause water quality problems. Some areas could use less public access. On bullet 2 add “correct or mitigate/eliminate access impacts.”**
8. Mining touches many areas, glad it was brought up.
9. **Regarding page 10 “Public Use and Enjoyment” bullet 1: Suggest adding “non-motorized” before “access”.**
10. **Regarding #2 in the Workshop Workbook: Agency should offer workshops to help people prior to writing their grant applications like the Department of Water Resources does.**
11. **Regarding page 15 “Eligible Applicants”: Public agencies in this area need more funding, but non-profits also do important work. Is there a way to balance the two types of applicants? If an application looks like a budget supplement request for a public agency, don’t look at as favorably.**

GRANT GUIDELINES QUESTIONS

1. When funding a non-profit, will SNC be lead agency for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)? Can funds be allocated for CEQA compliance?
2. **First cycle: Is SNC limiting projects to one year for completion?**
3. **Regarding page 1 “Introduction,” 6th bullet “Allocations,” 3rd subbullet: Need clarification of “Region-wide significance.” For example: something related to climate change?**
4. **If a group wants to apply for both types of grants, Strategic Opportunity Grants (SOGs) and Competitive Grants, is there any issue precluding that?**
5. Do grants preclude educational, interpretive projects?
6. **Regarding Appendix A: What is the definition of long term sustainability?**
7. Maintenance is a difficult issue, please share ideas on how to address this issue.
8. **How are you treating partnerships? Are they preferential or not? Are you looking at the biggest bang for the buck? Regional distribution considerations?**
9. **Discretionary grants (SOGs): Will there be five cycles? How will they work? Submit application the earlier the better versus five individual cycles?**

10. Will the application be web-based?

GRANT GUIDELINES

COMMENTS

1. Regarding page 2, numbers 1-3 "Eligible Projects": Clearer to add something like "related to water and water resources, watershed qualities, benefits, values" at the end of these.
2. Project proponents need to be familiar with their sites. Will funds be available for pre-project sampling (arsenic, mercury)? Projects may require phased funding due to issues like this.
3. What will the approach be to administering grants? (Concerned about onerous requirements.)
4. Grants of less than \$50,000 available for small on-the-ground projects? Could be helpful to add, good for smaller groups.
5. SOGs: Maybe break out into categories similar to competitive grants, gives a better idea of what is available.
6. Will the SNC Board select proposals? Suggest most work at staff level.

OTHER

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

1. Gubernatorial appointees: Do they change with the governor? How does that influence the Board?

SUBREGIONAL ISSUES RAISED

1. Mining (environmental impacts and restoration)
2. Cultural Resources
3. Urbanization
4. Public Access/Tourism
5. Working Landscapes
6. Maintenance